Resentment against NCERT curriculum

5106. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

fa) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training has recently published a national curriculum for school education;

(b) if so, the main contents thereof;

(c) whether there is a lot of resentment in the academic circles who view this as a deliberate attempt to saffronise education; and

(d) the steps proposed to remove the suspicion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL):(a) to (d) As a follow up of the Naitonal Policy on Education, the NCERT has recently prepared a Discussion Document on the National Curriculum Framework for School Education and released it in January, 2000 for public debates. Thi$ document is being discussed and debated at National and State levels. After receiving feedback on the Discussion document, NCERT will release the Curriculum Framework as a model to all States.

Effect of quality of education on society

5107. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item captioned "Not a paltry thing, which appeared in The times of India dated 10th February, 2000;

(b) whether quality of education is the biggest stumbling block and the gaps between the rich and poor, men and women, powerful and powerless, have further widened for a very long time; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government in the direction of changing the mindset of masses, especially towards the education of girl child?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.